

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks. Prior to entry of this response, Claims 1-11 and 13-29 were pending in the application, of which Claims 1, 8, 18, and 27 are independent. In the Final Office Action dated October 17, 2005, Claims 1-11 and 13-29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Following this response, Claims 1, 3-11 and 13-46 remain in this application, Claims 30-46 being added by this Amendment and Claim 2 being canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants hereby address the Examiner's rejections in turn.

I. Rejection of the Claims Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

In the Final Office Action dated October 17, 2005, the Examiner rejected Claims 1-11, 13, 17, and 27-29 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,259,782 ("*Gallant*") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,922,559 ("*Mohammed*"). Furthermore, the Examiner rejected Claims 18-26 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Gallant* in view of *Mohammed* in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,373,817 ("*Kung*"). Claims 1, 8, 18, and 27 have been amended, and Applicants respectfully submit that the amendment overcomes this rejection and adds no new matter.

Amended Claim 1 is patentably distinguishable over the cited art for at least the reason that it recites, for example, "wherein a call directed toward the second handset corresponding to the single telephone number on a telecommunications network is received at a media gateway operative to enable the wireless access point to generate a ring tone at the digital cordless handset, the telecommunications network being operative to generate a ring tone corresponding to the call at the second handset, the media gateway configured to link to the telecommunications network to the wired data

network." Amended Claims 8, 18, and 27 each includes a similar recitation. Support for these amendments can be found in the specification at least on page 20, lines 17-25.

According to an embodiment of the claimed invention, a single telephone number may be assigned to a handset in a public switch telephone network, in a regulated wireless network, and in an unregulated wireless network. (See specification, page 20, lines 10-16.) Consistent with an embodiment of the claimed invention, in order to provide this functionality for utilizing the single telephone number with multiple handsets, an interface may be provided between the unregulated wireless network, the regulated wireless network, and the public switch telephone network. (See specification, page 20, lines 17-19.) For example, a media gateway may interface with a signal transfer point (STP) within the public switch telephone network via a communication link. (See specification, page 20, lines 19-20.) The communication link may employ, for example, the signaling system 7 (SS7) switching protocol. (See specification, page 20, lines 21.) The STP may be a multi-port high speed packet switch that may be programmed to respond to routing information in an appropriate layer of the switching protocol and to route data packets to their intended destinations. (See specification, page 20, lines 21-24.)

In contrast, *Gallant* at least does not disclose ringing a call to two handsets assigned a single telephone number. Accordingly, *Gallant* at least does not disclose a media gateway configured to enable ringing the call to two handsets assigned the single telephone number, one handset on a telecommunications network and the other handset on an unregulated wireless network digital. For example, *Gallant* discloses that a permanent telephone number is assigned for use by the subscriber. (See col. 4, lines

33-35.) Wireline routing instructions are assigned to a line of a wireline switch for allowing access to a wireline terminal. (See col. 4, lines 35-37.) A wireless terminal in *Gallant* is registered with the wireless switch. (See col. 4, lines 37-49.) Wireless routing instructions are obtained for allowing access to the wireless terminal. (See col. 4, lines 39-41.) The wireline routing instructions and the wireless routing instructions in *Gallant* are subsequently assigned to a telephone number to thereby directly associate the wireline terminal with the wireless terminal. (See col. 4, lines 43-43.) A calling priority scheme is assigned to the telephone number in order to designate which terminal to call when a request for call completion is made to the telephone number. (See col. 4, lines 43-46.)

In operation, *Gallant's* system receives an incoming call to the wireline switch requesting call completion to the telephone number. (See col. 4, lines 47-49.) In response to the incoming call, a request message is sent over a data signaling network from the wireline switch to a database management system of a global location register requesting a routing instructions for completing the call to the telephone number. (See col. 4, lines 49-53.) In response to the request message, in *Gallant*, a response message is sent over the data signaling network from the database management system to the wireline switch containing routing instructions for completing the call over the combined switching arrangement based upon the associated calling priority scheme for completing the call. (See col. 4, lines 53-53.) Lastly, the call is completed over the combined switching arrangement in *Gallant* to at least one of the subscriber's terminals by using the routing instructions in the response message. (See col. 4, lines 59-62.)

In *Gallant*, ringing a call to two handsets assigned a single telephone number in not disclosed. Rather *Gallant* discloses a calling priority scheme that is assigned to the telephone number in order to designate which terminal to call when a request for call completion is made to the telephone number. In *Gallant*, two handsets are not assigned a single telephone number, rather a calling priority scheme is disclosed to progressively call different devices in order to locate a person based on a pre-designated calling priority scheme. In other words, if the person is not located at the first device, a next device (indicated by the scheme) is called until the person is reached or all devices indicated by the scheme are called.

Furthermore, *Mohammed* does not overcome *Gallant's* deficiencies. *Mohammed* merely discloses that a base station 18 wirelessly transmits telephone signals from a standard Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN) 20 and, if necessary, a standard Private Base exchange (PBX) 22, to a subscriber device 12. (See col. 3, lines 46-49.) Specifically, *Mohammed* discloses that when device 12 is within an unlicensed wireless service coverage area 16, originating base station 18 provides device 12 with wireless telephone service originating from PSTN 20 rather than a cellular network 14. (See col. 3, lines 49-53.) Accordingly, like *Gallant*, *Mohammed* at least does not disclose ringing a call to two handsets assigned a single telephone number. Rather, *Mohammed* merely discloses that base station 18 provides device 12 with wireless telephone service when device 12 is within unlicensed wireless service coverage area 16.

Moreover, *Kung* does not overcome *Gallant's* and *Mohammed's* deficiencies. *Kung* merely discloses a "chase me bit" method of routing a variable bit rate communication between a first terminal and a distant terminal over alternative networks

including a circuit switched network. (See Abstract, lines 1-4.) A packet network permits changing routing parameters remotely in response to user inputs including user requested changes in chasing parameters. (See Abstract, lines 4-6.) The “chase me bit” method in *Kung* permits setting a chase me bit when a call is not immediately deliverable and chasing a subscriber even if a message is to be delivered by converting the message to text for delivery by paging the subscriber. (See Abstract, lines 6-10.) Like *Gallant* and *Mohammed*, *Kung* at least does not disclose ringing a call to two handsets assigned a single telephone number. Rather, *Kung* merely discloses chasing a subscriber even if a message is to be delivered by converting the message to text for delivery by paging the subscriber.

In sum, combining *Gallant* with *Mohammed* and *Kung* would not have led to the claimed invention because *Gallant*, *Mohammed*, and *Kung*, either individually or in combination, at least do not disclose or suggest “wherein a call directed toward the second handset corresponding to the single telephone number on a telecommunications network is received at a media gateway operative to enable the wireless access point to generate a ring tone at the digital cordless handset, the telecommunications network being operative to generate a ring tone corresponding to the call at the second handset, the media gateway configured to link to the telecommunications network to the wired data network,” as recited by amended Claim 1. Amended Claims 8, 18, and 27 each includes a similar recitation. Accordingly, independent Claims 1, 8, 18, and 27 each patentably distinguishes the present invention over the cited art, and Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection of Claims 1, 8, 18, and 27.

Dependent Claims 3-7, 9-11, 13-17, 19-26, and 28-29 are also allowable at least for the reasons described above regarding independent Claims 1, 8, 18, and 27, and by virtue of their dependency upon independent Claims 1, 8, 18, 27. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection of dependent Claims 3-7, 9-11, 13-17, 19-26, and 28-29.

II. New Claims

Claims 30-46 have been added to more distinctly define and to round out the protection for the invention to which Applicants are entitled. Applicants respectfully submit that these claims are allowable over the cited art and that they add no new matter. Support for these new claims can be found in the specification at least on page 8, lines 16-26 and page 16, lines 15-30

III. Conclusion


In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants respectfully request the reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims. The preceding arguments are based only on the arguments in the Office Action, and therefore do not address patentable aspects of the invention that were not addressed by the Examiner in the Office Action. The claims may include other elements that are not shown, taught, or suggested by the cited art. Accordingly, the preceding argument in favor of patentability is advanced without prejudice to other bases of patentability. Furthermore, the Office Action contains a number of statements reflecting characterizations of the related art and the claims. Regardless of whether any

such statement is identified herein, Applicants decline to automatically subscribe to any statement or characterization in the Office Action.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: March 29, 2006

By: 
D. Kent Stier
Reg. No. 50,640

Merchant & Gould
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-9946
Telephone: 404.954.5066



DKS:mdb